

7-16-2010

William Mason, M.C. [Washington, DC] to W. Beaumont [Saint Louis, MO] regarding: discussion of family, national politics, a proposal to establish commercial hospitals on the “western waters”.
January 2, 1835

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Recommended Citation

William Mason, M.C. [Washington, DC] to W. Beaumont [Saint Louis, MO] regarding: discussion of family, national politics, a proposal to establish commercial hospitals on the “western waters”. January 2, 1835. Beaumont, William. Bernard Becker Medical Library Archives. Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, Missouri. http://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/beaumont_1835/27

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Washington D.C. January 2nd 1835

My Dear Cousin - Yours of the 8th ult. has been received
and I am much gratified to hear of ~~you~~ that you are
in the enjoyment of health, and professional prosperity, and
the fair prospect of its being still more so. Your encourage-
ments good, and increasing as the Country increases in
population and wealth it must add to your own, Cousin
Andrew, ^{Accountant} P. converse with daily on various subjects, and ^{find} him
an agreeable companion, intelligent, and Patriotic, he is
of the right Stamp. we go together on all general subjects
when any thing local we vote according to the interests
we represent, we have been here almost a month and
have done but little legislative business, have had some
warm debates upon Abolition Memorials - and on the
subject of admitting Michigan into the Union, this question
of admission is clog'd with difficulties, calculated to divide
Political friends and may be the means of procrastinating
the subject beyond the present session - it is amidst the
holidays, ^{now} and Congress have adjourn'd ^{our} until next week. we
receiving and paying visits to the dignitaries of Washington
all is fun and frolic. Until I am heartily tired of it -
your application I have not yet examined, but will the
first opportunity, and give it a candid consideration and do
what I shall think will be clearly right and you would I
know ask me to go ^{no} further. I will also attend to the
Application for a line of Commercial, Hospitals upon the
western waters - since I have been in this place
which is called a City - my health has been variable
like the atmosphere it is now mending, and I trust after
going through the necessary change, that it will be more
steady and permanent. I have recently received letters from

Sp. 13 My Brother P. J. Mason is now at Boston. I have
no. 13. 2 and would be very much pleased to receive a letter
from you; he will be going West. a. w. long, he isn't going to Michigan
as a Bachelor and likes to roam; if you could induce him to go on
to your country, and find himself a deep soil. I think it would make him
happy. You will find him intelligent, and a good companion. Suppose you
draft him a line immediately on receipt of this. He would be delighted - on many
evening you, he can give you a more general sketch. Then I have been to you

my family, arranging their good health, and that my old
mother is living and enjoys her usual health and spirits
I will transmit your good wishes and affectionate ^{regard} to her when
I write again - I am anxious to see you, and ^{or would have} it afforded me
the highest gratification could I have met you here, it would
have added another link to the chain of ^{friendship} that subsists
between Andrew and myself - it would ^{have} formed a social triangle
whose sides would have been equal - a two fold chord is strong, but
a three fold chord is not easily broken - oh my congenial friend
what strange vicissitudes in human affairs - to day we are here, but
where to morrow - none can predict, the future is before us, and
what it has in store for us - is beyond our comprehension, let us then
as you observe. Go ahead, prepare for what may come and leave
the rest to heaven, - whether I shall ever visit your section
of country, rests upon future contingencies which time
must determine. it would please me much to be near you
and pass the few remaining years of my life, in closer intercourse
of reciprocal friendship, and ^{to} sweeten the end of my existence, but
I dare not promise myself so rich a reward, lest disappointment dash it from
me and leave me more miserable - but whether I ever see your
face again or not, your have my best wishes, for your worldly
prosperity and personal happiness. all that I can confidently expect
you shall be done with promptitude and fidelity - present
my kindest regards to your family - and write occasionally
and inform how you progress in business, and what I can
do to add to your happiness - the Democracy of this Union stands
well. Good principles will prevail - and ^{trust} that the old
Ship Constitution will ride out the storm. The old Captain is
at the helm well, ^{probably} do his duty - only let the Country do
theirs and all is safe - we have not received any authentic
recent intelligence from France, our relations with that
nation, look a little squally, we hope for peace, and believe
we shall have it, but may be disappointed, if France does not pay
the 25 millions. war is inevitable and let it come we are prepared
to meet it. I am very respectfully your Obedt. servt and
friend

Doct. Wm. Beaumont

Yours P. J. Mason



Price

Wm W. Weston M. E.

Dr
Wm W. Weston

W. J. Burgeson

St. Louis

Missouri